

From: HastingsGOP@aol.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/16/02 5:26pm
Subject: Microsoft

Dear DOJ:

Re: your solicitation of consumer opinion concerning the Microsoft settlement

I thought the entire case against Microsoft was weak, its very existence an affront to honest free-market businesspeople.

Note: I use a Power Macintosh, and have always been an Apple user. I am hardly affected by Microsoft. But its business practices have always appeared to me to be earnest, and to think the government would be punitive toward a successful venture is sickening. Microsoft 1.) pays its taxes, 2.) has rewarded a lot of working people with well-to-do incomes and equity, 3.) has a solvent 401-k, and 4.) hasn't cooked its books while finagling its financial situation, as some people in Houston seem to have done lately.

So why on earth did my government ever try to dismantle this company, which exemplifies all that is good about capitalism and the American work ethic? Because of the complaints of its competitors, who apparently weren't as creative or far-seeing or successful as Mr. Gates and his legions?

I have never held, and do not hold, any financial interest in Microsoft, and have never been employed by the company. My perspective is that of an informed citizen who has followed government intervention in the private sector since the mid-1970s-- with knowledge of American economic and political history since well before Theodore Roosevelt's first interventions. At least TR had a point, and some righteousness. The Clinton justice department did not.

Tim Hays
Chairman
Greenburgh Republican Town Committee
Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706
NY-20 CD

CC: nrdc@ix.netcom.com@inetgw,twhazlett@yahoo.com@inet...